

The Wichita Eagle.

Published on Tuesday at each week, from office in Eagle Block.
Subscription two dollars in advance.

Feed of Cows Before Calving.

The period of gestation is one that makes large drafts upon the vitality of the animal's system. The cow has just finished a period of heavy drain upon her system, in yielding large quantities of milk, and if a good milk-er, is likely to be thin in flesh. Now, she must recover from exhaustion, and lay on her normal quantity of flesh, besides supporting the new life within her. Does not the plainest common sense show that she should have a generous ration? The fever, impaction of the manfolds, etc., mentioned, are the result of feeding too much dry, in- nutritious food. The natural food of the cow is soft, succulent grass. She is usually put upon dry hay and straw, with no laxative element in the ration. If she were fed a small quantity of tur- nips, carrots, beets, etc., during the winter or non-milking season, she would be no more liable to disease in winter than in summer. We have of- ten recommended wheat, bran, or oil meal, as a good substitute for roots. Every cow should be fed, when roots are not to be had, a pint of oil cake or oil meal per day. It is really injudicious feeding, or, not good feeding, that makes trouble with cows at the time of calving. And now, let us say to that large and constantly increasing class of western dairymen that they should not allow the oil cake pro- duced in their own region to be sent to Europe to enrich its soil, when it is worth more than the price it brings to feed at home. All the flesh the cow can lay during the period of going dry becomes a stock to draw on during the coming milking season. We should recommend a highly fattening food, such as Indian corn, to be fed largely to dry cows. There is a large demand for muscle-forming food, such as oats, bran, oil cake, clover hay, etc. The greater the variety the better. Mr. Boles, of Marengo, Illinois, has adopted half corn and half oats, ground to- gether, as his general grain ration for cows, and this is a good one.—National Live Stock Journal.

List of Peach Trees for Southern Kansas.

We clip for the benefit of those in- tending to plant peach trees this spring, an article from the pen of an Emporia News correspondent—Chas. Hinshaw a resident in Kansas for over twenty years, and engaged exclu- sively in the fruit business. Now is the time for planting fruit trees. In peach trees I recommend the following: Emporia, Alexander, Early Louisa, Hale's Early, Early Rivers, Mountain Rose, Large Early York, Foster, Crawford's Free, Reeves, Moore's, Old Moxon Free, Ward's, Stamp The World, Christina, Ship- ly's Late, Silver Medal, Brandy Wine, Heath Cling, Salway, Billyue's Late. Steadily. The above will keep up a succession for about 16 or 18 weeks, and ripen nearly in order as named. Some of the late kinds may be kept for several weeks by wrapping paper, and put in small boxes and keep in a cool cellar. They can all be had at from 10 to 20 cents each. There are several good kinds left out because they ripen with other kinds that are nearly like them. The apricot ripens just before the earliest peaches, and pays well. They are not so hardy and reliable as the peach. As time advances varieties of fruit are being changed, some kind that stood at the head of the list 10 or 12 years ago, are now left out and their places filled by others that were then discarded. We have a great many new kinds of peaches on probation, but they are mostly high, and likely some of them will prove worthless.

CHARLES HINSHAW,

Americus, Kansas.

Forest Planting.

Forest planting has become a neces- sity in some countries in consequence of the scarcity of timber, the reduc- tion of the volume of water in rivers, the drying up of springs, the inunda- tion caused by the unchecked flow of pluvial torrents from the mountain slopes, and the deleterious changes in climates from the cutting down of woods. Cities whose streets are plant- ed with trees are much healthier than those without them, and there is even a difference in the salubrity of the at- mosphere in sections of the same city from a similar cause. In France, Italy, Greece, Germany, Austria, England, and the colonies in Australia and New Zealand, the government has under- taken a systematic replanting of the for- ests.—Champion.

Rotation of Crops.

The next crop after corn may be po- tatoes, barley or oats, and in the fall put in winter wheat and seed down to timothy and sow the clover seed in the spring, in March, while the surface of the soil freezes at night and thaws by day, which opens the soil and lets the clover seed into the numerous little cracks. Another way is to sow the clover seed in April and run a fine- toothed harrow over the land both ways. If the soil is light, the harrow- ing will benefit the wheat, eradicate the weeds and cover the clover seeds. But this rotation requires an applica- tion of manure to each crop in order to produce good, paying crops, as a general rule.

Rhubarb—Asparagus.

Rhubarb deserves a special place, the richest place you can find, or else give it free after manuring, for it pays best when best fed. The roots should be planted about three feet apart, one or two crowns in a place. Without asparagus our gardens would not be a model one, so that fine early vegetable must have a place. If the roots be at hand let them be set out in rows about two feet apart one way by one and a half the other. If seed be sown, sow the same in rows, fifteen inches apart about ten to the foot, and transplant as above at one to two years' growth. These constitute the mere permanent things of the garden, and will only require replanting occasionally.

Chickens Fed.

Calves or sheep's lights and livers, which can always be obtained in the market-houses for a few cents apiece, are valuable to feed fowls, for two rea- sons—they are devoid of bones, and they closely resemble insect diet. We advise the cooking of any sort of meat food always.

Plant Flowers.

Every farmer who has a daughter or two nearly grown up should hold "a council" with them about this time and persuade them to clear up the grounds about the house, plant flow- ers, and work in the garden generally. It will be good for their morals, good for reputation for thrift and industry, and much better for their health.—Ex- change.

For the Eagle.
How to Set a Hedge Fence.

ED. EAGLE:—As hedging is an im- portant subject in this country, and one that every farmer should be deep- ly interested in, and have a good knowledge of the most practical meth- od of making a hedge, and judging from observations I have made, there is great lack of this knowledge. I think that a few hints in that direc- tion would be of use. To make a success of raising a hedge we must have a well prepared hedge row, good healthy plants, then have them properly set and well cultured. The row should be broke in June from one to two rods wide, stirred again in August or September, and then stir and harrow well the follow- ing spring and it will be in good order to receive the plants. Good strong one year old plants are prefer- able, the more roots they have the bet- ter. Plow a deep furrow where your plants are to be set, then place your plants about twelve inches apart in the furrow, leaning them against the side of the furrow from which the furrow was turned (or on the land side of the furrow). Care should be taken to cover the roots soon, so that they may not get dry. Draw the dirt over the roots with a hoe, covering them well, then tramp the earth firm- ly on them, then hoe some more dirt over them filling the furrow, but don't pack this last covering, this will prevent the earth from baking. Now, it needs nothing but good cultivation until it is four years old. You might as well expect to raise good corn with- out good cultivation, as to raise a hedge—keep it clean of weeds and the ground well pulverized. A good stand is a very important thing, as it is a difficult task to make a good hedge out of a poor stand; replants does not succeed well. If the stand is poor you better plow up and commence anew next spring, but, if the above condi- tions are complied with, there need be but little doubts of a good stand. Water should not be allowed to stand upon the hedge row—better drain the water off, than raise the hedge row out of it. At four years old the hedge will probably be large enough to lap, commence at one end so as to lap over and not spring back—cut as close to the ground as possible on the opposite side of the furrow which you are lap- ing, this down in a line with the hedge cut, the next in the same man- ner and lay it down on the former one and so continue to do until all the hedge is laid down. In lapping it will be necessary to trim and cut out some but only enough to let it come down to a proper height, which is about three feet. An angle of 45 degrees is about the angle the canes should make. If the hedge is too high when brought to this angle let the top be trimmed off. This work should be done in the spring before the bark slips, or, it can be done in open weather in the winter.

Now, the principal growth of new wood will be from the roots, or stumps below, where it was cut, to lap it over and there will be an abun- dant of strong shoots sent up which will soon extend above the old wood. In July, or any time before this new growth gets to hard, take an ordinary corn cutter and cut the tops off even- ly at such heights as may be desired, also trim the sides off evenly to such breadth as may be desired; two feet is breadth enough. There will be a small growth made after this first trimming which should be cut again before the wood gets hard. In this way a hedge can be made so that it will be a protec- tion to crops, and at the same time an ornament to any farm. There may be some trouble with east and west dikes on account of the wind turning some of them out of place before the new shoots would grow up and hold them. We had but little trouble in this di- rection in Illinois, where my experi- ence in hedging was small stakes driven down through the brush at in- tervals of four to nine feet, which obviates this trouble, should it arise. There is as follows: Trim the hedge to single canes then cut one of them off to every three or four feet, three feet high, then cut as in the other case and lay down with the same angle as above described, all the remaining ones, and weave them in; this is proof against the wind. Farmers often make a mistake in putting out hedge, they put it out on the lines where it is often but little needed, and neglect the pasture which should be the first thing attended to.

Don't put in too much hedge so that you can't attend it well, a few rods of good hedge is valuable, while miles of neglected hedge is worse than useless.

FARMER WOULD BE.

LINCOLN, Feb. 25, 1878.

Large Bunches of Grapes.

There is some noise being made in our eastern and English exchanges about heavy bunches of grapes. We have no doubt California could weigh them all down if the effort were made. At the last mechanics' fair in this city Mr. Blowers showed a bunch of Em- peror grapes which weighed twenty- five pounds, and made no special ef- fort about it, either. There was one shown in this city last summer which weighed 125 pounds, but it was an artificial affair, made by interweaving a number of branches. That which is said to be the "heaviest bunch of black grapes ever known" has recently been on exhibition in Dublin, as we learn from the Gardener's Chronicle of Lon- don. The variety is Gros Guillaume, and the grower, Mr. Roberts, gardener to the Countess of Charleville, Char- ville Forest, Tullamore, King's coun- ty. Its weight is 23 pounds 5 ounces; its length 14 inches; its width across the shoulders 22 1/2 inches; and in point of bloom, size of berries, and general finish, it is described as all that could be desired. This bunch stands third on the list of heaviest bunches (irrespective of color), being two pounds 15 ounces less in weight than the Raisin de Cables, (25 pounds four ounces), shown by Mr. Curror at Ed- inburgh, in September, 1875, and two pounds five ounces less than the White Nice (25 pounds 15 ounces) shown by Mr. Dickson, of Arkelton, at the same time and place.—N. Y. Tribune.

Plant Flowers.

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AMERICAN Central, St. Louis, Mo.	1,528,072
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